1	S.230
2	Senators Bray, Campion, MacDonald, Riehle, and Rodgers move that the
3	Senate concur in the House proposal of amendment with a further proposal of
4	amendment as follows:
5	First: In Sec. 6, 24 V.S.A. § 4352, by striking out subsections (a) (regional
6	plan) and (b) (municipal plan) and inserting in lieu thereof new subsections (a)
7	and (b) to read:
8	(a) Regional plan. A regional planning commission may submit its adopted
9	regional plan to the Commissioner of Public Service appointed under
10	30 V.S.A. § 1 for a determination of energy compliance. The Commissioner
11	shall issue an affirmative determination on finding that the regional plan meets
12	the requirements of subsection (c) of this section and allows for the siting in
13	the region of all types of renewable generation technologies.
14	(b) Municipal plan. If the Commissioner of Public Service has issued an
15	affirmative determination of energy compliance for a regional plan that is in
16	effect, a municipal legislative body within the region may submit its adopted
17	municipal plan to the regional planning commission for issuance of a
18	determination of energy compliance. The regional planning commission shall
19	issue an affirmative determination, signed by the chair of the regional planning
20	commission, on finding that the municipal plan meets the requirements of
21	subsection (c) of this section and is consistent with the regional plan.

1	Second: In Sec. 6, 24 V.S.A. § 4352, in subsection (c) (enhanced energy
2	planning; requirements), in the first full sentence after the subheading and
3	before the colon, by striking out " <u>a determination</u> " and inserting in lieu thereof
4	an affirmative determination
5	Third: In Sec. 6, 24 V.S.A. § 4352, in subsection (e) (process for issuing
6	determinations of energy compliance), by striking out the second sentence after
7	the subheading and inserting in lieu thereof the following:
8	The Commissioner or regional planning commission shall issue the
9	determination in writing within two months of the receipt of a request for a
10	determination.
11	Fourth: In Sec. 6, 24 V.S.A. § 4352, in subsection (f) (appeal), after the
12	first sentence, by inserting The provisions of 10 V.S.A. § 6024 regarding
13	assistance to the Board from other departments and agencies of the State shall
14	apply to this subsection.
15	Fifth: In Sec. 6, 24 V.S.A. § 4352, in subsection (g) (municipality;
16	determination from DPS; time-limited option), in subdivision (1), by striking
17	out the first sentence and inserting in lieu thereof The Commissioner shall
18	issue an affirmative determination of energy compliance for the municipal plan
19	on finding that the plan meets the requirements of subsection (c) of this
20	section.

1	Sixth: By striking out Sec. 10 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a
2	new Sec. 10 to read:
3	Sec. 10. TRAINING
4	Following publication of the recommendations and standards under
5	Sec. 9(a) of this act, the Department of Public Service, the Vermont League of
6	Cities and Towns, and the Vermont Association of Planning and Development
7	Agencies shall collaborate on the development and presentation of training
8	sessions for municipal and regional planning commissions to assist them in the
9	development of municipal and regional plans that are eligible to receive a
10	determination of energy compliance under Sec. 6 of this act, 24 V.S.A. § 4352,
11	with at least one such session to be held in the area of each regional planning
12	commission after notice of the session to the regional planning commission
13	and its member municipalities.
14	Seventh: After Sec. 10, by inserting Sec. 10a to read:
15	Sec. 10a. PLANNING SUPPORT; ALLOCATION OF COSTS
16	(a) During fiscal year 2017, the Commissioner of Public Service, in
17	consultation with the Commissioner of Housing and Community
18	Development, shall award the amount of \$300,000.00 to regional planning
19	commissions established under 24 V.S.A. chapter 117 and to municipalities for
20	the purpose of providing training under Sec. 10 (training) of this act or
21	assisting municipalities in the implementation of this act.

1	(b) In awarding funds under this section, the Commissioners shall consider
2	the need and size of a municipality or region and the availability, if any, of
3	other assistance, expertise, or funds to a municipality or region to implement
4	this act.
5	(c) The Commissioner of Public Service shall allocate costs under
6	subsection (a) of this section to the electric distribution utilities subject to its
7	supervision under Title 30 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated based on their
8	pro rata share of total Vermont retail kilowatt-hour sales for the previous fiscal
9	year. Each of these utilities shall pay its allocation into the State Treasury at
10	such time and in such manner as the Commissioner may direct.
11	Eighth: In Sec. 11, 30 V.S.A. § 248, in subsection (a), by striking out
12	subdivisions (4) through (6) in their entirety and inserting in lieu thereof new
13	subdivisions (4) through (6) to read:
14	(4)(A) With respect to a facility located in the State, the Public Service
15	Board shall hold a nontechnical public hearing on each petition for such
16	finding and certificate in at least one county in which any portion of the
17	construction of the facility is proposed to be located.
18	* * *
19	(C) At the time of filing its application with the Board, copies shall
20	be given by the petitioner to the Attorney General and the Department of
21	Public Service, and, with respect to facilities within the State, the Department

1	of Health, Agency of Natural Resources, Historic Preservation Division,
2	Agency of Transportation, Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, and to
3	the chair or director of the municipal and regional planning commissions and
4	the municipal legislative body for each town and city in which the proposed
5	facility will be located.
6	* * *
7	(E) The Agency of Natural Resources shall appear as a party in any
8	proceedings held under this subsection, shall provide evidence and
9	recommendations concerning any findings to be made under subdivision (b)(5)
10	of this section, and may provide evidence and recommendations concerning
11	any other matters to be determined by the Board in such a proceeding.
12	(F) The following shall apply to the participation of the Agency of
13	Agriculture, Food and Markets in proceedings held under this subsection:
14	(i) In any proceeding regarding an electric generation facility that
15	will have a capacity greater than 500 kilowatts and will be sited on a tract
16	containing primary agricultural soils as defined in 10 V.S.A. § 6001, the
17	Agency shall appear as a party and provide evidence and recommendations
18	concerning any findings to be made under subdivision (b)(5) of this section on
19	those soils, and may provide evidence and recommendations concerning any
20	other matters to be determined by the Board in such a proceeding.

1	(ii) In a proceeding other than one described in subdivision (i) of
2	this subsection (4)(F), the Agency shall have the right to appear and
3	participate.
4	(G) The regional planning commission for the region in which the
5	facility is located shall have the right to appear as a party in any proceedings
6	held under this subsection. The regional planning commission of an adjacent
7	region shall have the same right if the distance of the facility's nearest
8	component to the boundary of that planning commission is 500 feet or
9	10 times the height of the facility's tallest component, whichever is greater.
10	(H) The legislative body and the planning commission for the
11	municipality in which a facility is located shall have the right to appear as a
12	party in any proceedings held under this subsection. The legislative body and
13	planning commission of an adjacent municipality shall have the same right if
14	the distance of the facility's nearest component to the boundary of that
15	adjacent municipality is 500 feet or 10 times the height of the facility's tallest
16	component, whichever is greater.
17	(I) When a person has the right to appear as a party in a proceeding
18	before the Board under this chapter, the person may exercise this right by filing
19	a letter with the Board stating that the person appears through the person's duly
20	authorized representative, signed by that representative.

1	(J) This subdivision (J) applies to an application for an electric
2	generation facility with a capacity that is greater than 50 kilowatts, unless the
3	facility is located on a new or existing structure the primary purpose of which
4	is not the generation of electricity. In addition to any other information
5	required by the Board, the application for such a facility shall include
6	information that delineates:
7	(i) the full limits of physical disturbance due to the construction
8	and operation of the facility and related infrastructure, including areas
9	disturbed due to the creation or modification of access roads and utility lines
10	and the clearing or management of vegetation;
11	(ii) the presence and total acreage of primary agricultural soils as
12	defined in 10 V.S.A. § 6001 on each tract to be physically disturbed in
13	connection with the construction and operation of the facility, the amount of
14	those soils to be disturbed, and any other proposed impacts to those soils;
15	(iii) all visible infrastructure associated with the facility; and
16	(iv) all impacts of the facility's construction and operation under
17	subdivision (b)(5) of this section, including impacts due to the creation or
18	modification of access roads and utility lines and the clearing or management
19	of vegetation.
20	(5) The Board shall adopt rules regarding standard conditions on
21	postconstruction inspection and maintenance of aesthetic mitigation and on

1	decommissioning to be included in certificates of public good for in-state
2	facilities approved under this section. The purpose of these standard
3	conditions shall be to ensure that all required aesthetic mitigation is performed
4	and maintained and that facilities are removed once they are no longer in
5	service.
6	(6) In any certificate of public good issued under this section for an
7	in-state plant as defined in section 8002 of this title that generates electricity
8	from wind, the Board shall require the plant to install radar-controlled
9	obstruction lights on all wind turbines for which the Federal Aviation
10	Administration (FAA) requires obstruction lights, if the plant includes four or
11	more wind turbines and the FAA allows the use of radar-controlled lighting
12	technology.
13	(A) Nothing in this subdivision shall allow the Board to approve
14	obstruction lights that do not meet FAA standards.
15	(B) The purpose of this subdivision is to reduce the visual impact of
16	wind turbine obstruction lights on the environment and nearby properties. The
17	General Assembly finds that wind turbine obstruction lights that remain
18	illuminated through the night create light pollution. Radar-controlled
19	obstruction lights are only illuminated when aircraft are detected in the area,
20	and therefore the use of these lights will reduce the negative environmental
21	impacts of obstruction lights.

1	Ninth: In Sec. 11, 30 V.S.A. § 248, in subsection (b), in subdivision (5),
2	after "(9)(K)" by striking out ", impacts to primary agricultural soils as defined
3	<u>in 10 V.S.A. § 6001,"</u>
4	Tenth: After Sec. 11, by inserting a Sec. 11a to read:
5	Sec. 11a. RULES; PETITION
6	(a) On or before November 1, 2016, the Department of Public Service shall
7	file a petition for rulemaking with the Public Service Board containing
8	proposed rules to implement 30 V.S.A. § 248(a)(5) (postconstruction
9	inspection of aesthetic mitigation; decommissioning) as enacted by Sec. 11 of
10	this act.
11	(b) On or before December 15, 2016, the Public Service Board shall file
12	proposed rules to implement 30 V.S.A. § 248(a)(5) with the Secretary of State
13	under 3 V.S.A. § 838. The Board shall finally adopt such rules on or before
14	August 15, 2017, unless such deadline is extended by the Legislative
15	Committee on Administrative Rules pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 843(c).
16	Eleventh: By striking out Sec. 12 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof
17	a new Sec. 12 to read:
18	Sec. 12. SOUND STANDARDS; WIND GENERATION
19	(a) On or before July 1, 2017, the Public Service Board (the Board) finally
20	shall adopt rules under 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 regarding sound from wind
21	generation facilities approved under 30 V.S.A. § 248, unless such deadline is

1	extended by the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules pursuant to
2	3 V.S.A. § 843(c). In developing these rules, the Board shall consider:
3	(1) standards that apply to all wind generation facilities;
4	(2) a methodology for determining sound levels and measurement
5	locations for each such facility on a case-by-case basis; or
6	(3) standards that apply to one or more categories of wind generation
7	facilities, with a methodology for determining sound levels and measurement
8	locations for other such facilities on a case-by-case basis.
9	(b) Notwithstanding any contrary provision of 1 V.S.A. § 213 or 214 or
10	3 V.S.A. § 845, rules adopted under this section shall apply to an application
11	for a certificate of public good under 30 V.S.A. § 248 filed on or after
12	April 15, 2016, regardless of whether such a certificate is issued prior to the
13	effective date of the rules. The Board shall condition each certificate of public
14	good issued for a wind generation facility on compliance with the rules to be
15	issued under this section.
16	Twelfth: After Sec. 12, by inserting a reader guide, Secs. 12a and 12b, and
17	a further reader guide to read:
18	* * * Preferred Location Pilot; Standard Offer * * *
19	Sec. 12a. 30 V.S.A. § 8005a is amended to read:
20	§ 8005a. STANDARD OFFER PROGRAM
21	* * *

1	(c) Cumulative capacity. In accordance with this subsection, the Board
2	shall issue standard offers to new standard offer plants until a cumulative plant
3	capacity amount of 127.5 MW is reached.
4	(1) Pace. Annually commencing April 1, 2013, the Board shall increase
5	the cumulative plant capacity of the standard offer program (the annual
6	increase) until the 127.5-MW cumulative plant capacity of this subsection is
7	reached.
8	* * *
9	(D) Pilot project; preferred locations. For one year commencing on
10	January 1, 2017, the Board shall allocate one-sixth of the annual increase to
11	new standard offer plants that will be wholly located in one or more preferred
12	locations other than parking lots or parking lot canopies and, separately,
13	one-sixth of the annual increase of the annual increase to new standard offer
14	plants that will be wholly located over parking lots or on parking lot canopies.
15	(i) To qualify for these allocations, the plant shall not require the
16	construction of a new substation by the interconnecting retail electricity
17	provider or by increasing the capacity of one or more of the provider's existing
18	facilities. To qualify for the allocation to plants wholly located over parking
19	lots or on parking lot canopies, the location shall remain in use as a parking lot.
20	(ii) These allocations shall apply proportionally to the independent
21	developer block and provider block.

1	(iii) If in a given year an allocation under this pilot project is not
2	fully subscribed, the Board in the same year shall allocate the unsubscribed
3	capacity to new standard offer plants outside the pilot project.
4	(iv) As used in this subdivision (D), "preferred location" means a
5	site within the State on which a renewable energy plant will be located that is
6	one of the following:
7	(I) A new or existing structure whose primary use is not the
8	generation of electricity or providing support for the placement of equipment
9	that generates electricity.
10	(II) A parking lot canopy over a paved parking lot, provided
11	that the location remains in use as a parking lot.
12	(III) A tract previously developed for a use other than siting a
13	plant on which a structure or impervious surface was lawfully in existence and
14	use prior to July 1 of the year preceding the year in which an application for a
15	certificate of public good under section 248 of this title for the plant is filed or
16	in which the plant seeks an award of a contract under the standard offer
17	program under this section, whichever is earlier. To qualify under this
18	subdivision (III), the limits of disturbance of a proposed renewable energy
19	plant must include either the existing structure or impervious surface and shall
20	not include any headwaters, streams, shorelines, floodways, rare and
21	irreplaceable natural areas, necessary wildlife habitat, wetlands, endangered

1	species, productive forestlands, and primary agricultural soils, all of which are
2	as defined in 10 V.S.A. chapter 151.
3	(IV) Land certified by the Secretary of Natural Resources to be
4	a brownfield site as defined under 10 V.S.A. § 6642.
5	(V) A sanitary landfill as defined in 10 V.S.A. § 6602,
6	provided that the Secretary of Natural Resources certifies that the land
7	constitutes such a landfill and is suitable for the development of the plant.
8	(VI) The disturbed portion of a gravel pit, quarry, or similar
9	site for the extraction of a mineral resource, provided that all activities
10	pertaining to site reclamation required by applicable law or permit condition
11	are satisfied prior to the installation of the plant.
12	(VII) A specific location designated in a duly adopted
13	municipal plan under 24 V.S.A. chapter 117 for the siting of a renewable
14	energy plant or specific type or size of renewable energy plant, provided that
15	the plant meets any siting criteria recommended in the plan for the location.
16	(VIII) A site listed on the National Priorities List (NPL)
17	established under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation,
18	and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C. chapter 103, if the U.S. Environmental Protection
19	Agency or the Agency of Natural Resources confirms each of the following:
20	(aa) The site is listed on the NPL.

1	(bb) Development of the plant on the site will not
2	compromise or interfere with remedial action on the site.
3	(cc) The site is suitable for development of the plant.
4	(IX) A new hydroelectric generation facility at a dam in
5	existence as of January 1, 2016 or a hydroelectric generation facility that
6	was in existence but not in service for a period of at least 10 years prior to
7	January 1, 2016 and that will be redeveloped for electric generation, if the
8	facility has received approval or a grant of exemption from the U.S. Federal
9	Energy Regulatory Commission.
10	* * *
11	(f) Price. The categories of renewable energy for which the Board shall set
12	standard offer prices shall include at least each of the categories established
13	pursuant to subdivision $(c)(2)$ of this section. The Board by order shall
14	determine and set the price paid to a plant owner for each kWh generated
15	under a standard offer required by this section, with a goal of ensuring timely
16	development at the lowest feasible cost. The Board shall not be required to
17	make this determination as a contested case under 3 V.S.A. chapter 25.
18	* * *
19	(5) Price; preferred location pilots. For the period during which the
20	Board allocates capacity to new standard offer plants that will be wholly

1	located in one or more preferred locations as set forth in subdivision (c)(1)(D)
2	of this section, the following shall apply to the price paid to such a plant:
3	(A) If the Board uses a market-based mechanism under subdivision
4	(1) of this subsection (f) to determine this price for one or both of the two
5	allocations of capacity, the Board shall compare only the proposals of plants
6	that qualify for the allocation.
7	(B) If the Board uses avoided costs under subdivision (2) of this
8	subsection (f) to determine this price for one or both of the two allocations of
9	capacity, the Board shall apply the definition of "avoided costs" as set forth in
10	subdivision (2)(B) of this subsection with the modification that the avoided
11	energy or capacity shall be from distributed renewable generation that is sited
12	on a location that qualifies for the allocation.
13	(C) With respect to the allocation to the new standard offer plants
14	that will be wholly located over parking lots or on parking lot canopies, if in a
15	given year the Board receives only one application or multiple applications for
16	plants owned or controlled by the same person as defined in 10 V.S.A. § 6001,
17	the Board shall investigate each application and shall have discretion to reduce
18	the price to be consistent with the standard offer price for plants outside the
19	pilot project using the same generation technology.

1	Sec. 12b. STANDARD OFFER PILOT; REPORT
2	On or before January 15, 2018, the Public Service Board shall file a report
3	with the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development, the
4	Senate Committee on Finance, and the House and Senate Committees on
5	Natural Resources and Energy on the standard offer pilot project on preferred
6	locations authorized in Sec. 12a of this act. This report shall itemize the size,
7	type of preferred location, generation technology, and cost per kilowatt hour of
8	each application received under the pilot project and shall identify each
9	generation facility approved under the pilot and the price awarded to each such
10	facility.
11	* * * Net Metering * * *
12	<u>Thirteenth</u> : After Sec. 15, by inserting a reader guide and Sec. 15a to read:
13	* * * Allocation of AAFM and Postclosure Monitoring Costs * * *
14	Sec. 15a. 30 V.S.A. §§ 20 and 21 are amended to read:
15	§ 20. PARTICULAR PROCEEDINGS AND ACTIVITIES; PERSONNEL
16	(a)(1) The Board or the Department of Public Service may authorize or
17	retain legal counsel, official stenographers, expert witnesses, advisors,
18	temporary employees, and other research, scientific, or engineering services:
19	
19	(i)(A) To assist the Board or Department in any proceeding listed in

1	(ii)(B) To monitor compliance with any formal opinion or order of
2	the Board.
3	$\frac{(iii)(C)}{(C)}$ In proceedings under section 248 of this title, to assist other
4	State agencies that are named parties to the proceeding where the Board or
5	Department determines that they are essential to a full consideration of the
6	petition, or for the purpose of monitoring compliance with an order resulting
7	from such a petition.
8	(iv)(D) In addition to the above services in subdivisions $(1)(A)-(C)$
9	of this subsection (a), in proceedings under subsection 248(h) of this title, by
10	contract with the regional planning commission of the region or regions
11	affected by a proposed facility, to assist in determining conformance with local
12	and regional plans and to obtain the <del>commissions</del> <u>commission's</u> data, analysis,
13	and recommendations on the economic, environmental, historic, or other
14	impact of the proposed facility in the region.
15	(v)(E) To assist in monitoring the ongoing and future reliability and
16	the postclosure activities of any nuclear generating plant within the State. For
17	the purpose of In this subdivision section, "postclosure activities" includes
18	planning for and implementation of any action within the State's jurisdiction
19	that shall or will occur when the plant permanently ceases generating
20	electricity.

1	(2) The Agency of Natural Resources may authorize or retain legal
2	counsel, official stenographers, expert witnesses, advisors, temporary
3	employees, and other research, scientific, or engineering services to:
4	(A) Assist the Agency of Natural Resources in any proceeding under
5	section 248 of this title.
6	(B) Monitor compliance with an order issued under section 248 of
7	this title.
8	(C) Assist the Board or <u>the</u> Department <u>of Public Service</u> in any
9	proceedings described in subdivisions (b)(9) (Federal Energy Regulatory
10	Commission) and (11) (Nuclear Regulatory Commission) of this section.
11	Allocation of Agency of Natural Resources costs under this subdivision (C)
12	shall be in the same manner as provided under subdivisions (b)(9) and (11) of
13	this section. The Agency of Natural Resources shall report annually to the
14	Joint Fiscal Committee all costs incurred and expenditures charged under the
15	authority of this subsection with respect to proceedings under subdivision
16	(b)(9) of this section and the purpose for which such costs were incurred and
17	expenditures made.
18	(D) Assist in monitoring the postclosure activities of any nuclear
19	generating plant within the State.
20	(3) <u>The Department of Health may authorize or retain legal counsel</u> ,
21	official stenographers, expert witnesses, advisors, temporary employees, and

1	other research, scientific, or engineering services to assist in monitoring the
2	postclosure activities of any nuclear generating plant within the State.
3	(4) The Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets may authorize or
4	retain legal counsel, official stenographers, expert witnesses, advisors,
5	temporary employees, and other research, scientific, or engineering services to:
6	(A) assist the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets in any
7	proceeding under section 248 of this title; or
8	(B) monitor compliance with an order issued under section 248 of
9	<u>this title.</u>
10	(5) The personnel authorized by this section shall be in addition to the
11	regular personnel of the Board or the Department of Public Service or other
12	State agencies; and in the case of the Department of Public Service or other
13	State agencies may be retained only with the approval of the Governor and
14	after notice to the applicant or the public service company or companies
15	involved. The Board or the Department of Public Service shall fix the amount
16	of compensation and expenses to be paid such additional personnel, except that
17	the Agency of Natural Resources, the Department of Health, or the Agency of
18	Agriculture, Food and Markets, respectively, shall fix the amount of
19	compensation and expenses to be paid to additional personnel that it retains
20	under subdivision (2), (3), or (4) of this subsection.
21	* * *

1	§ 21. PARTICULAR PROCEEDINGS AND ACTIVITIES; ASSESSMENT
2	OF COSTS
3	(a) The Board, the Department, or the Agency of Natural Resources An
4	agency may allocate the portion of the expense incurred or authorized by it in
5	retaining additional personnel for the particular proceedings authorized in
6	pursuant to section 20 of this title to the applicant or the public service
7	company or companies involved in those proceedings. In this section,
8	"agency" means an agency, board, or department of the State enabled to
9	authorize or retain personnel under section 20 of this title.
10	(1) The Board shall upon petition of an applicant or public service
11	company to which costs are proposed to be allocated, review and determine,
12	after opportunity for hearing, having due regard for the size and complexity of
13	the project, the necessity and reasonableness of such costs, and may amend or
14	revise such allocations. Nothing in this section shall confer authority on the
15	Board to select or decide the personnel, the expenses of whom are being
16	allocated, unless such personnel are retained by the Board. Prior to allocating
17	costs, the Board shall make a determination of the purpose and use of the funds
18	to be raised hereunder, identify the recipient of the funds, provide for
19	allocation of costs among companies to be assessed, indicate an estimated
20	duration of the proceedings retention of personnel whose costs are being
21	allocated, and estimate the total costs to be imposed. With the approval of the

1	Board, such estimates may be revised as necessary. From time to time during
2	the progress of the work of such additional personnel, the Board, the
3	Department, or the Agency of Natural Resources agency retaining the
4	personnel shall render to the company detailed statements showing the amount
5	of money expended or contracted for in the work of such personnel, which
6	statements shall be paid by the applicant or the public service company into the
7	State Treasury at such time and in such manner as the Board, the Department,
8	or the Agency of Natural Resources agency may reasonably direct.
9	(2) In any proceeding under section 248 of this title, the Agency of
10	Natural Resources may allocate the portion of the expense incurred in retaining
11	additional staff authorized in subsection 21(a) of this title only if the following
12	apply:
13	(A) the Agency of Natural Resources does not have the expertise and
14	the retention of such expertise is required to fulfill the Agency's its statutory
15	obligations in the proceeding; and
16	(B) the Agency of Natural Resources allocates only that portion of
17	the cost for such expertise that exceeds the fee paid by the applicant under
18	section 248b of this title.
19	(b) When regular employees of the Board, the Department, or the Agency
20	of Natural Resources an agency are employed in the particular proceedings and
21	activities described in section 20 of this title, the Board, the Department, or the

1	Agency of Natural Resources agency may also allocate the portion of their its
2	costs and expenses to the applicant or the public service company or
3	companies involved in the proceedings. The costs of regular employees shall
4	be computed on the basis of working days within the salary period. The
5	manner of assessment and of making payments shall otherwise be as provided
6	for additional personnel in subsection (a) of this section. However, with
7	respect to proceedings under section 248 of this title, the Agency of Natural
8	Resources shall not allocate the costs of regular employees.
9	* * *
10	(e) On or before January 15, 2011, and annually thereafter, the Agency of
11	Natural Resources Annually, on or before January 15, each agency shall report
12	to the Senate and House Committees on Natural Resources and Energy the
13	total amount of expenses allocated under this section during the previous fiscal
14	year. The report shall include the name of each applicant or public service
15	company to whom expenses were allocated and the amount allocated to each
16	applicant or company. The Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets also
17	shall submit a copy of its report to the Senate Committee on Agriculture and
18	the House Committee on Agriculture and Forests Products.
19	* * *
20	(g) The Board, or the Department with the approval of the Governor, An
21	agency may allocate such portion of expense incurred or authorized by it in

1	compensating persons retained in the monitoring of postclosure activities of a
2	nuclear generating plant pursuant to subdivision 20(a)(1)(v) subsection 20(a)
3	of this title to the nuclear generating plant whose activities are being
4	monitored. Except for the Board, the agency shall obtain the approval of the
5	Governor before making such an allocation.
6	* * *
7	Fourteenth: After Sec. 15a, by inserting a reader guide and Sec. 15b to
8	read:
9	* * * Regulated Energy Utility Expansion Funds * * *
10	Sec. 15b. 30 V.S.A. § 218d(d) is amended to read:
11	(d) Alternative regulation may include such changes or additions to,
12	waivers of, or alternatives to, traditional rate-making procedures, standards,
13	and mechanisms, including substantive changes to rate base-rate of return rate
14	setting, as the board Board finds will promote the public good and will support
15	the required findings in subsection (a) of this section. In addition, the Board
16	shall not allow a company to set aside funds collected from ratepayers for the
17	purpose of supporting a future expansion or upgrade of its transmission or
18	distribution network except after notice and opportunity for hearing and only if
19	all of the following apply:

1	(1) There is a cost estimate for the expansion or upgrade that the
2	company demonstrates is consistent with the principles of least cost integrated
3	planning as defined in section 218c of this title.
4	(2) The amount of such funds does not exceed 10 percent of the
5	estimated cost of the expansion or upgrade.
6	(3) Interest earned on the funds is credited to the ratepayers.
7	(4) The funds are not disbursed to the company until after expansion or
8	upgrade is in service.
9	(5) The funds are not used to defray any portion of the costs of
10	expansion or upgrade in excess of the cost estimate described in subdivision
11	(1) of this subsection.
12	Fifteenth: By striking out Sec. 16 (effective dates) in its entirety and
13	inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 16 to read:
14	Sec. 16. EFFECTIVE DATES
15	This act shall take effect on July 1, 2016, except that:
16	(1) This section and Secs. 9 (initial implementation; recommendations;
17	standards), 11 (30 V.S.A. § 248), 11a (rules; petition), 12 (sound standards;
18	wind generation) and 15 (Access to Public Service Board Working Group)
19	shall take effect on passage. Sec. 6 (optional determination of energy
20	compliance) shall apply on passage to the activities of the Department of
21	Public Service under Sec. 9.

1	(2) Sec. 13 (net metering) shall take effect on January 2, 2017, and shall
2	amend 30 V.S.A. § 8010 as amended by 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 56,
3	Sec. 12. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of 1 V.S.A. § 214, Sec. 13
4	shall apply to the Public Service Board process under 2014 Acts and Resolves
5	<u>No. 99, Sec. 5.</u>
6	(3) Sec. 15a (30 V.S.A. §§ 20 and 21) shall take effect on July 2, 2016.